

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 8, 2006. Claims 1 to 3, 60, 62, 64 to 69, 74, 75, 77 to 79, 84, 85 and 87 to 99 are pending in the application, with Claims 90 to 99 having been newly added. Claims 1 to 3 have been amended, and Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96 to 99 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 to 3, 60, 62, 64 to 69, 74, 75, 77 to 79, 84, 85 and 87 to 89 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,778,377 (Marlin) in view of "Windows 95 Printer Driver Operation Manual" (the '95 Manual) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,737,599 (Rowe). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96

Independent Claim 1 as amended is directed to a displaying method, of acquiring information related to a selected network device of a plurality of network devices, and displaying acquired information of the selected network device. The method includes a device window display step of displaying a device window allocated to the selected network device, the device window having a first sheet, a second sheet, and a designation portion for selecting either the first sheet or the second sheet, wherein the sheet selected by the designation portion is visible while the other sheet is invisible, and the first sheet is visible at an initial display stage of the device window. The method also includes a first acquiring step of acquiring first partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network. In addition, the method includes a first partial sheet information display step of displaying the

first partial sheet information, acquired in the first acquiring step, on the first sheet of the device window as an initial display, wherein the first partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device. The method also includes a second acquiring step of acquiring a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via the network in response to a user's selection of the second sheet by using the designation portion. In addition, the method includes a second partial sheet information display step of displaying the second partial sheet information, acquired in the second acquiring step, on the second sheet of the device window, wherein the second partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device and is different from the first partial sheet information.

Independent Claims 2 and 3 are respectively directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable recording medium which are seen to generally correspond with Claim 1.

Newly-added independent Claim 90 is directed to a displaying method, of acquiring information related to a selected network device of a plurality of network devices, and displaying a device window allocated to the selected network device, the device window having a first sheet and a second sheet. The method includes a first acquiring step of acquiring a first partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network. The method also includes a first partial sheet information display step of displaying the first partial sheet information, acquired in the first acquiring step, on the first sheet of the device window, wherein the first partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device. In addition, the method includes a second acquiring step of

acquiring, in response to a user's selection of the second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network, wherein the second partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device. In addition, the method includes a second partial sheet information display step of displaying the second partial sheet information, acquired in the second acquiring step, on the second sheet of the device window.

Independent Claims 93 and 96 are respectively directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable recording medium which are seen to generally correspond with Claim 90.

Thus, among its many features, the invention of Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96 provides for (i) acquiring first partial sheet information related to a selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network, and (ii) acquiring, in response to a user's selection of a second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network.

By virtue of the foregoing, in which first partial sheet information is acquired by communicating with a selected network device, and in which second partial sheet information is separately acquired by communicating with the selected network device in response to a user's selection of a second sheet, the first partial sheet information can be displayed more quickly. For example, the present invention is seen to provide an advantage in network management, where an initial sheet of a window can be displayed quickly, even if the window has a plurality of sheets to be displayed.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention of Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96. In particular, Marlin, the '95 Manual and Rowe are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of (i) acquiring first partial sheet information related to a selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network, and (ii) acquiring, in response to a user's selection of a second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network.

As understood by Applicants, Marlin discloses a GUI in which a Desktop Management Interface (DMI) makes available "component instrumentation" code for acquiring an attribute value from its source. See Marlin, column 13, lines 41 to 43. The GUI contains several features, including chain actions, accomplished by double clicking on a particular location in the display. Double clicking may be used to invoke another report, update a dialogue box, display a byte map, etc. See Marlin, column 14, lines 52 to 56.

As such, Marlin is seen to disclose the acquisition and display of information previously stored in a database. However, nothing in Marlin is seen to disclose or suggest acquiring first partial sheet information related to a selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network. Moreover, Marlin is not seen to disclose or suggest acquiring, in response to a user's selection of a second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network. In addition, Marlin is not seen to disclose or suggest the attendant benefits provided by such acquiring of first and second partial sheet information.

The '95 Manual is not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Marlin. In particular, although the '95 Manual may be seen to disclose that a window has a plurality of sheets, nothing in the '95 Manual is seen to disclose or suggest how and when information to be displayed is displayed. In addition, the '95 Manual is not seen to disclose the timing for acquiring first and second partial sheet information. As a consequence, the '95 Manual could not be seen to disclose or suggest (i) acquiring first partial sheet information related to a selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network, and (ii) acquiring, in response to a user's selection of a second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network.

The Office Action cites to column 2, lines 20 to 27 of Rowe, for the alleged disclosure of a system which only provides an information portion request instead of providing a whole set (document) of information. Although the cited portion of Rowe may be seen to recognize that delay is involved with downloading an entire document, nothing in Rowe is seen to disclose or suggest acquiring first partial sheet information by communicating with a selected network device, and in response to a user's selection, acquiring second partial sheet information by communicating with the selected network device.

As such, even if Marlin, the '95 Manual and Rowe are combined in the manner proposed in the Office Action (assuming for argument's sake that such combination would be permissible), the result would not teach at least the features of (i) acquiring first partial sheet information related to a selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network, and (ii) acquiring, in

response to a user's selection of a second sheet, a second partial sheet information related to the selected network device, by communicating with the selected network device, via a network. In addition, the result would not suggest the attendant benefits provided by acquiring first and second partial sheet information in this manner.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that those skilled in the art would not rely on the teachings of Marlin in view of '95 Manual and Rowe when addressing the problems addressed by the invention herein. In this regard, since Marlin is not seen to disclose the concept of displaying partial information, one of ordinary skill in the art would not look to the '95 Manual's disclosure of a window with a plurality of sheets nor Rowe's description of an information portion request, from the description of Marlin.

Further in this regard, Rowe is not seen to be directed to the field of network management, but is instead seen to be directed to optimization of page-based electronic documents.

In addition, the Office Action asserted that it would have been obvious to modify the system of Marlin in view of Rowe, in order to permit a user to quickly view the requested information portion without the delay incurred in retrieval of the whole set of information. However, Applicants respectfully submit this a post-hoc rationalization for making the combination, which is not supported by any teachings in the prior art itself. In particular, while it may be a general objective to quickly view requested information with reduced delay, this objective does not provide any suggestion of the means by which this objective might be attained (such as the present invention's acquiring of a second partial sheet information in response to a user's selection of a second sheet).

Allowance of Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 97 to 99

Newly-added independent Claim 97 is directed to a displaying method, of acquiring information related to a selected network device of a plurality of network devices, and displaying acquired information of the selected network device. The method includes a device window display step of displaying a device window allocated to the selected network device, the device window having a first sheet, a second sheet, and a designation portion for selecting either the first sheet or the second sheet, wherein the sheet selected by the designation portion is visible while the other sheet is invisible, and the first sheet is visible at an initial display stage of the device window. The method also includes a first acquiring step of requesting, via a network, the selected network device to send first partial sheet information, which is part of information stored in the selected network device, and then, receiving the first partial sheet information sent from the selected network device via the network. In addition, the method includes a first partial sheet information display step of displaying the first partial sheet information, acquired in said first acquiring step, on the first sheet of the device window as an initial display, wherein the first partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device. The method also includes a second acquiring step of requesting, via the network, the selected network device to send second partial information, which is part of information stored in the selected network device, in response to a user's selection of the second sheet by using the designation portion, and then, receiving the second partial sheet information sent from the selected network device via the network. In addition, the method

includes a second partial sheet information displaying step of displaying the second partial sheet information, acquired in said second acquiring step, on the second sheet of the device window, wherein the second partial sheet information is part of information related to the selected network device and is different from the first partial sheet information.

Independent Claims 98 and 99 are respectively directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable recording medium which are seen to generally correspond with Claim 97.

Thus, among its many features, the invention of Claims 97 to 99 provides for (i) requesting, via a network, a selected network device to send first partial sheet information, which is part of information stored in the selected network device, and then, receiving the first partial sheet information sent from the selected network device via the network, and (ii) requesting, via the network, the selected network device to send second partial information, which is part of information stored in the selected network device, in response to a user's selection of the second sheet by using the designation portion, and then, receiving the second partial sheet information sent from the selected network device via the network.

For reasons similar to those discussed above, Marlin, the '95 Manual and Rowe are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the foregoing features.

Allowance of Claims 97 to 99 is therefore respectfully requested.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1 to 3, 90, 93 and 96 to 99 are believed to be allowable over the art of record.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons.


Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Finally, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner conduct a personal or telephonic interview with Applicant's representative regarding this case, before the Examiner takes this filing into consideration. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative as indicated below.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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